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*Eupatorium pubescens.*  
 " *perfoliatum.*  
 " *purpureum.*

*Spiræa salicifolia.*

*Krigia Virginica.*

*Sisymbrium officinale.*

*Linum sulcatum.*

*Barbarea vulgaris.*

*Taraxacum Den-leonis.*

*Gentiana Andrecesti.*

Out of bloom I noticed quantities of *Aletris farinosa*, *Hudsonia ericoides*, *Tephrosia Virginica*, *Ilex verticillata*, *Crataegus coccinea*, *Cephalanthus occidentalis*, *Ampelopsis quinquefolia*, *Cornus florida*, *Myrica cerifera*, &c., &c. This portion of our little State has not been explored, as evidenced by the fact that I found *Pedicularis lunceolata* in abundance by a road-side, although it is not recorded in our flora. In May and June the *Callopogons*, *Pogonias* and *Habenarias* are superb in Exeter. I hope to do more careful work there.—W. W. BAILEY.

NOMENCLATURE.—I desire to protest against the prevailing abuse of personal nomenclature. Botanical names are for all time, and even if it is of interest to us to know that Jones discovered a certain plant, future generations won't care a fig whether Tom, Dick or Harry first stumbled upon it. Possibly it may stimulate research somewhat, and the botanist who abuses it most may get more new plants thereby, but the work can be done just as well without it. The "holy fires of science in the human breast" cannot be perceptibly dampened by the removal of so selfish a motive. If the collector feels that he must write his name in imperishable letters, let him get a mallet and chisel and hie him to the Pyramids. Give us a name expressive of some salient peculiarity or of locality or range, but don't, *don't* call it *Smithia Brownii*! If the abuse goes on much longer, I verily believe that, before the final hardening of Descriptive Botany, the great majority of personal names will be expunged.—D.

BOTRYCHIUM LUNAROIDES VAR. OBLIQUUM.—In February number, 1877, notice is taken of *Botrychium Virginianum* with forking spikes. My son, Master George C. Spence, found a *B. lunaroides* var. *obliquum* with two distinct and entirely disconnected fertile spikes. There was no sacrifice or stinting of parts to produce this extra fruitage, but on the contrary the effort was followed by an unusual development of beauty and vigor in the plant proper, as the main spike, starting from the usual point, reached the height of fourteen inches, with a fruitage of five and one-half inches inclusive. The extra spike grew on the petiole of the frond, two inches from base of the frond and one inch from main spike. This was nine inches high, with two inches of fruit as large and well developed as is usual in the ordinary plant. There was nothing whatever to indicate that injury to the plant was the cause of this very unusual development.—MRS. E. J. SPENCE.

VARIATIONS.—Last spring I found a double flowering *Claytonia*; a *Ucularia grandiflora* with 8 petals, 8 stamens, 4 stigmas, and a 4-celled ovary; a tulip (in the garden) with 8 petals, 8 stamens and 8 stigmas; a tulip with 8 petals, 12 stamens, 3 of them united to the ovary, which was imperfectly 4-celled; another tulip with 7 petals, 7 stamens and 3 stigmas, and still another with 5 petals, 7 stamens and 3 stigmas; also a *Viola cucullata*, the blue flowers of which were beautifully striped with white. I have some of them in my garden.—A. HUBBERTSE.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS.—*American Journal of Science and Arts*, February.—Serenio Watson gives a synopsis of the North American species of *Populus*, and has requested that notes on any species of *Populus*, with specimens, be sent to the Herbarium of Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass. It will be a benefit to science for all who have such notes or specimens to comply with this request, for by this means Mr. Watson will be able to place the species of this difficult genus upon surer foundation than ever before. "Specimens may be sent by mail fresh from the tree, without the trouble of

pressing or drying, by wrapping them in an ordinary newspaper." The species enumerated are seven, viz: *P. tremuloides*, Mx., *P. grandidentata*, Mx., *P. heterophylla*, L., *P. balsamifera*, L., with two varieties, *candicans*, Gr., and *Californica*, Watson, *P. angustifolia*, James, *P. trichocarpa*, T. & G., and the var. *cupulata*, Watson, *P. monilifera*, Ait., and *P. Fremonti*, Watson, with the var. (?) *Wislizeni*.

*The American Naturalist*, February and March.—In the latter number we have two botanical articles: "The Transpiration of Plants," by J. M. Anders, and "Rambles of a Botanist in New Mexico," by E. L. Greene. Both are interesting and deserve a fuller notice than our crowded pages permit us to give.

*A Synopsis of the American Firs*, by Dr. Geo. Engelmann.—Dr. Engelmann takes up one difficult genus after another, and by the most patient and conscientious work brings order out of confusion. The species of *Abies* have long been confused, but now the sub-divisions of the genus are based upon leaf-structure, principally the two resin ducts, with greater certainty than on the length of the bracts, as was formerly done. "It is a most interesting as well as significant fact that while the anatomical structure of the leaves of higher organized plants shows considerable uniformity, so that it rarely can be made available for diagnostic purposes, the conifers exhibit such a wonderful variety of leaf structure (approaching thereby the lowest orders of vascular plants), that often a single leaf is sufficient to recognize the genus, and often the species, even when the ordinary characters may leave us in doubt." Nine species are enumerated, viz: *A. Fraseri*, Lindl., *A. balsamea*, Marshall, *A. subalpina*, Engelm., with var. *fallax*, *A. grandis*, Lindl., and var. *densifolia*, *A. concolor*, Lindl., *A. religiosa*, Schlecht., *A. bracteata*, Nutt., *A. nobilis*, Lindl., and *A. magnifica*, Murray.

*Ferns of North America*, by Prof. D. C. Eaton, Parts II and III.—The second and third parts of this splendid work are fully equal, if not superior in fine workmanship to the first, and Mr. S. E. Casino is to be congratulated upon its fine typographical appearance. In Part II there are three plates, containing seven species, and descriptions of six. The species are *Asplenium ebeneum*, Ait., *A. ebenoides*, R. R. Scott, *Botrychium lunaria*, Swartz, *B. lanceolatum*, Angstrom, *B. boreale*, Milde, *Cheilanthes lanuginosa*, Nutt., and *C. Californica*, Mett. The specimens of *Asplenium ebeneum* found in considerable abundance in this county are much more luxuriant in habit than the one figured, but not more so than is provided for in the text. The figure of *A. ebenoides* shows well its supposed hybrid character, the long, tapering, proliferous tip much resembling *Campptosorus rhizophyllus*, and its other features like *A. ebeneum*. Prof. Eaton recommends the attempt to produce this plant by artificial hybridizing, and thus establish its true hybrid character or not. *Botrychium boreale* is figured and described although collected but once in North America and that by Chamisso, sixty years ago in Unalaska. Its appearance in this work, however, may aid in its re-discovery. In Part III five species are figured, viz: *Aspidium Noveboracense* Swartz, *Campptosorus rhizophyllus*, Link, *Asplenium pinnatifidum*, Nutt., *Notholaena Fendleri*, Kunze, and *N. dealbata*, Kunze.

*Catalogue of the Phaenogamous and Vascular Cryptogamous Plants* found growing wild in Jefferson county, Ind. This catalogue is compiled by Mr. Chas. R. Barnes, and Mr. Jno. F. Baird adds a short list of plants growing in Clark county, not as yet found in Jefferson. The Jefferson county catalogue numbers 912 species through the Vascular cryptogamia, and hence forms a valuable check list. Any one desiring copies of it can be supplied by writing to Mr. Chas. R. Barnes, Madison, Ind.